

bottom surfaces having a ridge portion extending the length of said block and the other of  
 said top and bottom surfaces having a groove portion complementary to said ridge portion,  
 whereby when a plurality of said blocks are assembled horizontally and vertically with ridge  
 portions and groove portions of vertically adjacent blocks interfitting to define a wall, said  
 block end recesses define a plurality of vertically oriented ducts adapted to accept structural  
 rods and mortar in selected ones of said ducts to form support columns, and to accept utility  
 conduits in selected others of said ducts without rods and mortar characterized wherein said  
 ridge portion and said groove portion- are centrally located on said top and bottom surfaces  
 and said block includes a first channel and a second channel on either side of said recesses  
 along the top and bottom surfaces which channels extend from end to end generally parallel  
 to but laterally inwardly of said interior and exterior surfaces and laterally outwardly of said  
 ridge portion and said groove portion, said first channel being inwardly of said exterior side  
 of said block and said second channel being inwardly of said interior side, said first channel  
 being smaller in cross section than said second channel and adapted to accommodate sealing  
 means, and said second channel inward of said interior side adapted to accommodate a utility  
 cable whereby when said blocks are assembled, said first channels of horizontally adjacent  
 blocks define means for accommodating sealing means for sealing out weather elements, and  
 said second channels of horizontally adjacent blocks define conduits for utility cables.

19 2. The modular block of claim 1 wherein there is a central through aperture from top to  
 bottom in longitudinal alignment with said block end recesses.

20 3. The modular block of claim 1 wherein said block has at least one bore running  
 vertically through the block between the second channel of the top surface and second  
 channel of the bottom surface.

- 21 4. The modular block of claim 2 wherein said block has at least one bore running vertically through the block between the second channel of the top surface and second channel of the bottom surface

- 22 5. A modular building system for a building, including a visible foundation comprising structural beam elements of reinforced concrete having a plurality of foundation rods extending upwardly therefrom, a plurality of modular blocks for forming walls of said building extending upwardly from said foundation beam elements, said blocks having vertical apertures therethrough and adapted to be assembled into said walls such that a plurality of vertical ducts are formed in said walls by the apertures of adjacently assembled blocks, wall rods having upper and lower ends, the lower ends of said wall rods being connectable to said foundation beam rods at selected locations thereof and adapted to extend upwardly through selected ones of said assembled wall ducts, at least some of the wall rods being of a height where the upper ends are exposed above, an assembled wall, modular floor beams and means for connection of said floor beams to said visible foundation beam elements, and modular first ceiling beams for extending between side walls of the building, said ceiling beams adapted for support and connection to said walls in association with the exposed upper ends of said at least some of said wall rods, and a roof structure formed of modular beams for connection with said walls in association with the exposed upper ends of said at least some of said wall rods, characterized wherein means demountably connects said roof structure to said walls whereby said roof structure is removable from an assembled building whereby said walls may be extended upwardly by additional said modular block to form a second level, said first ceiling beams forming support for modular flooring of said second level, and said roof structure can be mounted on said extended walls, and further comprising modular wall

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comer blocks, modular flooring, windows, doors to complete and enclose said building according to a predetermined design, and further characterized wherein said modular wall blocks have top and bottom surfaces, opposed inner and outer sides and opposite ends, said top and bottom surfaces having complementary recess and protrusion configurations for interfitting vertically adjacent blocks, and wherein said modular wall blocks each have a channel in each of the top and bottom surfaces, each said channel being inwardly adjacent said outer side whereby when blocks are assembled to form a wall, said channels of adjacent blocks form a conduit for containing means to seal said walls from elements of weather.

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23 6 The building system of claim 3 wherein each said modular block further have second channels in the top and bottom surfaces Inwardly adjacent said Inner side whereby when said blocks are assembled to form a wall, said second channels of adjacent blocks form means for selectively containing utility conduits for the building.

24 7 The building system of claim 6 wherein said block further has at least one bore running vertically through said block between said second channel of the top surface and the second channel of the bottom surface.

25 8 The building system of claim 3 wherein said roof structure includes vibration dampening beam supports connected to said exposed upper ends of said at least some of said wall rods.

26 9 The building structure of claim 3 wherein said wall rods have threaded ends and further comprising, threaded connectors for extending said wall rods to selected lengths.

27 10. The building systems of claim 9, wherein each said visible foundation beam includes a further rod formed therewith, said further rod having an upper end for connection with a floor beam through a threaded connector.

28 11. The building system of claim 10 further including means for connecting said modular floor unit to said floor beam.

29 12. The building system of claim 3 further including rubber bearing means for separating said visible foundation beams from buried foundation means on which said visible foundation beams may be placed.

30 13. The building system of claim 3 wherein said roof structure is of "A" frame configuration and further includes space covers for connection between adjacent beams of said roof structure to cover spaces between said beams and said adjacent assembled wall, and further including facade elements to close in ends of said roof structure.

31 14. In a method of constructing a building which can be expanded upwardly as desired, the steps comprising:

providing a plurality of visual foundation beams to form a foundation for the building, said foundation beams including foundation rods extending upwardly therefrom at selected locations;

providing a plurality of modular wall block for assembly on said foundation beams in a selected configuration to form walls of said building, certain of said blocks being formed such that window and door apertures can be defined as desired, sold modular wall

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17. The building method of claim 16 further including providing floor modular units for forming a floor and providing means for connecting said floor modular unit to said floor beams.

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The building method of claim 17 wherein when said building is expanded upwardly, providing additional ceiling beams for the extended walls, providing additional flooring modulars for connection with the first ceiling beams, providing staircase means between said first level and said additional level, and providing additional window units in accordance with a predetermined design for said second story.

Remarks

This Preliminary Amendment is made to add those amendments provided in International Preliminary Examination Report dated January 18, 2002, and attached hereto and, to remove the multiple dependency of Claim 3 and to comply with the Rules of Practice as promulgated by MPEP Section 201.11, page 200-65; this amendment adds no prohibited new matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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